(d) what were the main reasons; and

(e) what steps the Government proposes to check such type of air intrusions in future?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM): (a) No, Sir. No incident concerning violation of Indian airspace by civil aircraft of other countries has been reported.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) to (e) Do not arise.

Committee on Mines and Minerals Act, 1957

2048. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have set up a committee to consider lacunae in the Mines and Minerals Act, 1957;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the other terms of reference of the committee;

(c) the composition of the committee; and

(d) the time by which the committee is likely to submit its report?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA): (a) to (d) The Central Government have constituted a committee under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Mines), Government of India with Additional Secretary, Ministry of Mines as Vice Chairman, Mining Secretaries of State Governments of Orissa, Rajasthan, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Assam and Himachal Pradesh, Secretary General, Federation of Indian Mineral Industries and Controller General, Indian Bureau of Mines as Members and Joint Secretary, Ministry of Mines as Member Secretary. The terms of reference of the Committee inter-alia include review of the existing laws and procedures governing regulation and development of minerals and to recommend steps to make them compatible with the policy changes and to suggest steps to reduce delays in grant/renewal of Prospecting Licences/Mining Leases. The Committee is also to consider and suggest further delegation of powers to the State Governments regarding grant/renewal of Prospecting Licence/Mining Leases and measures to prevent illegal mining. The Committee is expected to submit its report as early as possible.

Development of Hotels and Tourist Oriented Projects in Karnataka

2049. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that India Tourism Development Corporation intend to develop hotels and other tourist oriented projects in Karnataka;

(b) if so, whether the ITDC had approached the Government of Karnataka in this regard;

(c) if so, the details of places where these tourist oriented projects are proposed to be taken up in Karnataka by ITDC; and

(d) the number of new hotels proposed to be opened by ITDC at Bangalore and Mysore during 1997-98?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA): (a) and (b) In pursuance of its Jt. Venture Scheme, ITDC intend to undertake some tourism projects in the country including Karnataka in collaboration with the respective state govts. subject to commercial viability. In this regard, ITDC also approached the state govt. of Karnataka but they expressed their reservation about the Jt. Venture scheme.

(c) and (d) ITDC's Annual Plan 1997-98 does not include any specific plan scheme/provision for setting up any new hotel project in the state, including Bangalore and Mysore.

Tourism Potential

2050. SHRI P. KODANDARAMAIAH: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether internal tourism potential is ignored in preference to external potential;

(b) if so, the revenue earned from the external tourism and its comparison with the revenue earned from internal tourism;

(c) the number of foreigners and the number of Indians visited each place of historical and tourist importance during the last three years;

(d) the steps taken by the Union Government to promote the historical places providing amenities to tourists;

(e) whether the Government propose to preserve the Chitradurga Fort and building tourist infrastructure; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA): (a) to (c) The fact that Domestic tourism is the main stay for Indian tourism, is well recognised by the Government, though, it does not bring any additional revenue to the country. It, however, helps in the development of remote areas through the distribution of wealth. The estimated foreign exchange earnings from International tourism during the last three years is provided below:

Year	Foreign Exchange Earnings (Rupees in crores)
1994	7103.53
1995	8640.02
1996	10061.36